

ROCKVILLE

Reports

City of Rockville Newsletter

Vol. 46 No. 4 April 2000



Master Plan to Shape City's Future

Interested in Rockville's future development plans? You can help the Mayor and Council and the Planning Commission shape them by participating in the City's Master Plan update process.

"The Master Plan offers a broad vision for the city's future, helps direct all development activities in Rockville, determines where development will occur, and guides the Capital Improvement Program," explained Bob Spalding, Rockville's Chief of Planning.

Included in the plan are the goals and policy guidelines for areas such as community appearance, the environment, and housing. For example, recommendations for community facilities and parks can influence if new parkland is purchased and where community centers are located.

Last fall, the Planning Commission began reviewing the Master Plan, which according to Maryland State statute, must be reviewed every six years. During this process, the City is striving to make the new plan one that is supported by the citizens and includes many new ideas as well as those ideas generated during the *Imagine Rockville* visioning process.

"The update process is divided into two phases," continued Spalding. "During the first phase, the Planning Commission will draft a broad vision for the city and identify goals and policies to be included in the update."

When that is complete, three focus groups will meet in April to provide residents with an opportunity to offer their input.

- **Wednesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m., Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall** — Discussion topics: Land use, urban growth areas, transportation, and environmental quality
- **Saturday, April 15, 9:30 a.m., Carnation Room, Senior Center** — Discussion topics: Housing, residential neighborhoods, historic preservation, community facilities, and parks and recreation
- **Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall** — Discussion topics: Economic development, Town Center, recommendations for streamlined regulations in development areas, and community appearance

After the Planning Commission has received feedback from the community, draft recommendations will be prepared. There will be additional opportunities for the public to review the specific recommendations in the fall. There also will be a Public Hearing to discuss the proposed Master Plan before the Planning Commission recommends adoption by the Mayor and Council. This part of the plan is anticipated to be completed by the spring of 2001.

For more information, contact Marian Staye by e-mail at mstaye@ci.rockville.md.us or visit the City's Web site at www.ci.rockville.md.us

CALL 301-315-6527 FOR MORE INFO

City Celebrates Dr. Seuss



Councilmember Bob Dorsey reads to a fifth-grade class at College Garden Elementary School to commemorate the birthday of the late Dr. Seuss. March 2 has been named "Read Across America Day" in honor of the many contributions the writer made to the literary world making reading fun for generations of children and adults.

Census 2000

This is your future. Don't leave it blank.

Imagine how hard it would be to plan a trip using a map that was five, eight, or even nine years old. So many things may have changed that the map is rendered useless.

For government agencies, Census 2000 is the road map that helps them make multiple decisions, such as where to put new roads and schools. Community-based organizations also use this information to gauge the need for human services and match the unemployed with jobs.

In addition, Census information paints a statistical picture of the trends that affect Rockville. Information about income, housing, and poverty rates is a tool that enables federal, state, and local government agencies to put tax dollars to the best use.

Now is the time you can do something for Rockville. By taking just a few minutes to fill out your Census form and mail it back, you can ensure that your city gets heard. It only comes around once every 10 years, but its information is used throughout the decade. Remember, your answers are protected by law. ♦

CALL 301-413-0099 FOR MORE INFO

Listserv Links Neighborhoods

Rockville has created an exciting new online resource for its neighborhood associations – the "Neighborhood Network."

"The 'Neighborhood Network' is a listserv designed to connect the city's neighborhood associations via the Internet," said Christopher Bartlett, Neighborhood Resources Coordinator. "It enables subscribers to post and receive messages and exchange ideas and information. It also provides a venue for collaboration on issues of mutual interest."

With the new listserv, the City hopes to build a citywide network of community organizations that are dedicated to improving the quality of life in Rockville.

"This is an important tool in our effort to link City Hall to neighborhoods and to link neighborhoods to one another," continued Bartlett.

However, stressed Bartlett, the listserv is intended as a resource for neighborhood association representatives, and it isn't for use by the general public. It also should be noted that the listserv won't serve as a substitute for the City's regular notification procedure.

"It will, on occasion, be used to provide information or updates on issues that are important to the city as a whole," he said. ♦

CALL 301-309-3246 FOR MORE INFO

Calendar of Events

City Events

1 **Rockville Civic Ballet;** 7:30 p.m.; F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre; *The Odyssey*; \$7 general admission, \$5 children and seniors; Call 301-309-3340

1 **"Bearly" Used Sale;** See pg. 3

2 **Rockville Civic Ballet;** 2:30 p.m.; F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre; *The Odyssey*; \$7 general admission, \$5 children and seniors; Call 301-309-3340

2 **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Exhibit Opening;** 1-4 p.m.; Bernice B. Duvall (watercolors), Margaret Graham Kranking (watercolors), and Marchia Jestaedt (raku ceramics); Artist talk, April 13, 7:30 p.m.; Guided gallery tour, April 14, 10 a.m.; Free; Call 301-309-3354

2 **Sunday Afternoon Concert;** 2 p.m.; Glenview Mansion Conservatory; U.S. Navy Band Horn Quartet and Harbor Winds; Free

10 **Water Main Flushing Begins;** See pg. 3

13 **EARTH Day Bike-a-thon;** See pg. 3

14 **Arbor Day Celebration;** See pg. 3

14,15 **National Chamber Orchestra;** 8 p.m.; F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre; \$31 (center), \$24 (side), and \$17 (far side); Call 301-762-8580

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
20850-2364

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In Brief

Watts Branch Watershed

The Watts Branch Partnership, a citizen and City of Rockville taskforce, is moving forward with the development of a plan to correct erosion and reduce pollution in the Watts Branch Watershed, which includes neighborhoods west of I-270 and Hungerford Dr. The plan will include upgrading existing stormwater management facilities, building new stormwater facilities, stabilizing eroded stream banks, and educating the public on how to protect and improve the stream.

The Partnership reviewed 37 possible projects prepared by the Center for Watershed Protection, the City’s consultant, and sent 18 projects for a concept study. Staff and the City’s consultants now will collect more information and complete a plan for further consideration by the Partnership and the public.

CALL **301-309-3217** FOR MORE INFO

Rockville Scholarship

The deadline to submit applications for the Rockville Scholarship is May 1. Applications are available at the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery College’s Rockville Campus-Financial Aid Office, the Rockville Library, and at local high school’s career/guidance centers.

Recipients are selected based on academic achievements, school and community activities, and financial need. The scholarship may be applied toward tuition, room and board, books, and/or school fees at any post-secondary educational institution, including technical and art schools.

CALL **301-424-4727 EXT. 14** FOR MORE INFO

April Walking Town Meeting

Rose Hill will host the second Walking Town Meeting of 2000 on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to noon (rain or shine). The Mayor and Council invite all interested residents to attend. Walking Town Meetings give residents a chance to point out to the Mayor and Council and City staff areas of concern as well as aspects of their neighborhood that make them proud.

CALL **301-309-3247** FOR MORE INFO

Water Main Flushing

A systematic, citywide flushing program to remove accumulated fine sediments from the City water system will take place April 10 through June 30, during the hours 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

The program will start in the western portion of the city and move east. As flushing occurs, some temporary discoloration of your water may occur. The City suggests that you refrain from laundering clothes during these periods, which usually last for two to three hours.

CALL **301-309-3022** FOR MORE INFO

Egg-stravaganza

Enjoy some springtime fun at Rockville’s Egg-stravaganza on Saturday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr. In addition to a visit from Peter Cottontail, the day will include a puppet show, a bunny egg toss, a duck pond, a bunny trail maze, a bunny hop, a treasure hunt, and children’s crafts. The event is open to Rockville residents ages 1 through 9.

CALL **301-309-3340** FOR MORE INFO

Tax Preparation

Rockville, the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants, and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program are offering free income tax preparation assistance for low-to-moderate income city residents. The service is available by appointment only from 7:30 to 9 p.m., on Tuesdays through April 11, at the Community Services Department offices, 32 Courthouse Sq. New this year – electronic filing.

CALL **301-309-3183** FOR MORE INFO

• OR •

CALL **301-468-4179** FOR MORE INFO

Free Paint Program

Rockville’s Free Paint program offers eligible owners throughout the city free exterior paint. The City covers the cost of the paint, and the owner provides the labor. There are eligibility guidelines, and applicants must provide a complete copy of their 1999 income tax return as verification of household income. Further documentation, with respect to income and assets, may be required. Sign up begins May 1 and runs through Sept. 9.

CALL **301-309-3211** FOR MORE INFO

Nominate Cars

As part of its Annual Antique and Classic Car Show on Oct. 14, 2000, the City will celebrate the first century of cars with a display that represents significant milestones in automotive development. The City needs your help in identifying and nominating cars for this special display.

CALL **301-315-6533** FOR MORE INFO

Rockville Bike Trek

On Sunday, April 30, from 1 to 5 p.m., members of Rockville’s Citizens Bikeway Committee will lead a “sampling” of City bikeways. Interested residents will meet at the Rockville Metro station parking lot, ride an easy, 10-mile route on designated bike routes and the Rock Creek bike path, and return by Metro from the Grosvenor Station (there’s no fee for the metro).

CALL **301-315-5796** FOR MORE INFO

Arbor Day Celebration

Celebrate Arbor Day with Rockville as the City installs the new Millennium Garden, on Friday, April 14, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the corner of Potomac Valley Rd. and Falls Rd. The new garden, which is part of a year-long celebration of the millennium, will contain Maryland native trees and shrubs.

CALL **301-309-3340** FOR MORE INFO

EARTH Day Bike-a-thon

Come take part in a Bike-a-thon to celebrate EARTH (Education and Recreation Target Health) Day on Thursday, April 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Broome Athletic Park. Ride or bring your bike, and take part in the activities such as a bike rodeo, information on tree pruning and stream water testing, and more.

CALL **301-315-5796** FOR MORE INFO

Recreation Classes and Workshops

Try an activity with your child or learn something new on your own in one of the City’s spring programs. Here’s just a sampling of what’s available: Picnic Lunch (adult and child ages 3-5); Get Your Fitness in Line (ages 7 and older); Pediatric Safety and CPR (ages 12 and older); Alexander Technique (ages 18 and older); Balancing Hormones Naturally (ages

16 and older); Snack Attacks are OK (ages 18 and older); Tennis Social Mixer (ages 16 and older); and Hand Paint Your Own Wooden Furniture (ages 16 and older).

CALL **301-309-3340** FOR MORE INFO

“Bearly” Used Sale

On April 1, Rockville’s Twinbrook Community Recreation Center will host a “Bearly” Used Sale, from 9 a.m. to noon. The event is free and will take place rain or shine. No strollers are allowed.

CALL **301-315-5760** FOR MORE INFO

Twinbrook Activities

The Twinbrook Community Recreation Center has great offerings for you and your kids. On Thursdays, participate in an Activities Group for children ages 3, 4, and 5 years, from 6 to 7 p.m. Call 301-251-6337. On Fridays, there’s a Mom and Tots Playgroup, from 10 a.m.-noon. Call 301-984-3569. To participate, you must purchase an annual membership for the center.

CALL **301-315-5760** FOR MORE INFO

Spring Recreation Fun

Enjoy springtime with Rockville’s Outdoor Programs. Here’s what’s coming up: Millennium Tour of Rockville Academy, April 14; Tour of Longwood Gardens, April 30; Millennium Tour of Beall Dawson House, May 5; Appalachian Trail Hike, April 29; C&O Canal Bike Trip, May 6; and Bay Bridge Walk, May 7.


CALL **301-309-3182** FOR MORE INFO

Para Ud.

Censo 2000

Contestando a la preguntas del Censo estaremos cumpliendo como residentes de nuestra ciudad de Rockville. Tus respuestas van ha ayudar a determinar nuestras necesidades, donde construir nuevas escuelas, vías de comunicación, parques, urbanizaciones, centros de salud asi como programas de ayuda a los ancianos y a los mas necesitados, y para muchas cosas mas.

Asi que cuando la cartilla del censo llegue a tu casa no la pongas de lado. Contestala inmediatamente y devuelvela por correo. De esta manera garantizamos que nuestra voz sea oida y que las necesidades de nuestra ciudad y de nuestra comunidad puedan ser analizadas y valoradas. Tus respuestas son confidenciales y estan protegidas por la ley.

	Mayor ROSE G. KRASNOW Councilmembers ROBERT E. DORSEY, GLENNON J. HARRISON, ANNE M. ROBBINS, ROBERT J. WRIGHT
City Manager W. Mark Pentz Public Information Officer Karen Shulman Editor Valerie Kaufman	Graphics & Printing Division Carlton Barclay Sylvia Hourihan Nikita Jones Lori Russler Nancy Zombolas
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Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the ADA Coordinator at 301-309-3300; TTY 301-309-3187.	

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20 **Hearing Aid Tune-Ups;** 1:15-3:30 p.m.; Free

25 **Women’s Health Issues;** 1 p.m.; Free

Activities take place at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., unless noted. For more information, call 301-309-3025. All programs with activity numbers require an in-person or mail-in registration.

For Teens

3 **Billiards and Golf at Summit Hall and Buffalo Billiards;** Noon-4:15 p.m.; Cost includes billiards/golf fees, pizza, soda, transportation, and supervision; \$15 for Teen Club members; \$18 for non-members

4 **Camp Waredaca Horseback Riding;** \$24 for Teen Club members; \$30 for non-members

14 **Julius West Middle School Teen Club Dance;** 7:30-10 p.m.; Grades six through eight; \$3 for Teen Club members; \$5 for non-members

28 **Robert Frost Middle School Teen Club Dance;** 7:30-10 p.m.; Grades seven and eight; \$3 for Teen Club members; \$5 for non-members

For more information, call Rockville’s Teen Program Coordinator at 301-309-3345.



Rockville Bikeways

This spring watch for the new Bike Route signs being placed throughout the city.

These signs will be on roads that cyclists and planners have found to be the most convenient and comfortable for bike riding. The signs will help cyclists know the best routes and will let motorists know that bicycles are present.

For more information, call 301-315-5796.



April Program Schedule

REGULAR PROGRAMS

Mayor and Council Live

April 10, 7:30 p.m.
General Session
April 17, 7:30 p.m.
Public Hearing
(tentative)
April 24, 7:30 p.m.
General Session

Meeting Replays

Mon., 7:30 p.m.
(if no live meeting)
Tues. and Sun., 7:30 p.m.
Daily, 1 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Sat. and Sun., 9 a.m.

City Hall Report

Daily, 6 a.m., 8 a.m., noon,
6 p.m., and 10 p.m.

Mayor and Council Review

Daily, 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,
6:30 p.m., and
10:30 p.m.

Cityline

Daily, 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,
and 12:30 p.m.
Wed.-Sat., 9:30 p.m.

SPECIALS

Watts Branch Watershed Management Update

Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.
Daily, 1 p.m.
Wed.-Sat., 8:30 p.m

Mediation

Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. and
2:30 p.m.
Wed.-Sat., 7:30 p.m.

Every 15 Minutes (after April 18)

Sat. and Sun., 2:30 p.m.
Daily, 7 p.m.
Fri.-Sun., 11 p.m.

Caregivers

(until April 18)

Daily, 7:10 p.m.
Fri.-Sun., 11 p.m.

Economic Development

Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.
Daily, 2 p.m.
Wed.-Sat., 8 p.m.
Mon.-Thurs., 11 p.m.

Arts in Rockville

Mon.-Fri., 11 .m.
Daily, 1:45 p.m. and 7 p.m.
(until April 18)
Wed.-Sat., 9:15 p.m.

Inside City Hall

Meetings, Minutes, etc.

Minutes Highlights

From the Feb. 14, 22, and 28 meetings:

The Mayor and Council

- Appointed: Carolynn Duter (Animal Mat-
ters Board); Elizabeth Rodgers (Historic
District Commission); John Hall (Traffic
and Transportation Commission); and
Murray Stein (Senior Commission).
- Modified the purchase order to Grading
Specialists Inc., of Forestville, Md., in
the amount of \$21,591.53, for additional
work at the Potomac Woods Park Storm
Water Management and the
Hungerford/Stoneridge Storm Water
Management Pond projects.
- Approved a modification on purchase
order #19383 to Trans Metro Construc-
tion Inc., of Upper Marlboro, Md., in the
amount of \$22,597.78, for the construc-
tion of the Senior Center parking lot.
- Approved RFP #43-00 to Bay Area Eco-
nomics, of Silver Spring, Md., in the
amount of \$49,680, to conduct a com-
prehensive market analysis for
Rockville Town Center.
- Adopted a resolution to approve a con-
cept plan for comprehensive planned
development CPD99-0004, Fallsgrove
Associates Inc., to allow development
on the former Thomas Farm.
- Awarded RFP #45-00 to Hewitt Invest-
ment Group, of Atlanta, Ga., in an
amount not to exceed \$55,000, for pen-
sion fund investment performance
evaluation and consulting services.
- Awarded bid #50-00 to CEM Design
Inc., of Rockville, in the amount of
\$25,535, for the design of the Montrose
Community Center improvements.
- Awarded bid # 51-00 to Frederick Ward
Associates Inc., of Columbia, Md., in the
amount of \$116,123, for consultant ser-
vices for a parks survey contract.
- Awarded bid #55-00 to Lancaster Land-
scapes Inc., of Fairfax, Va., in the
amount of \$157,230.36, for municipal
lawn maintenance.
- Awarded a contract to Montgomery
County Public Schools, in the amount of
\$52,900, for bus transportation for City
Camps and Summer Playground.
- Approved an agreement between the
Mayor and Council and Metricom DC,
LLC, for a one-year period.
- Approved a rights-of-way use agree-
ment between the Mayor and Council
and Advance Telecom Group Inc.

The complete minutes from the Mayor and
Council meetings are available from the City
Clerk's office, 111 Maryland Ave., or by call-
ing 301-309-3310.

Mayor & Council Calendar

April 3 Work Session
April 10 General Session
April 17 Public Hearing (tentative)
April 24 General Session

All meetings, unless noted, are in the
Mayor and Council Chambers, Rockville
City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

Council meetings are televised live on
Rockville Cable 53 (cable-ready 33). Meet-
ings are replayed at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays,
if there is no live meeting scheduled; Tues-

days and Sundays at 7:30 p.m.; daily at
1 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Saturdays and
Sundays at 9 a.m.

Mayor & Council Drop-In

The Mayor and one member of the
Council are available to meet with resi-
dents on a drop-in basis, in the Mayor and
Council office at City Hall, 111 Maryland
Ave., from 5:30-7 p.m. on Mondays when
there is a General Session or a Public Hear-
ing. The front door of City Hall will remain
open during this time.

April 10 Glennon Harrison
April 17 (tentative) Anne Robbins
April 24 Bob Wright

While Drop-In is on a first-come, first-
served basis, visitors are urged to call 301-
309-3310 ahead of time so we are better
prepared to serve your needs and to verify
the meeting schedule.

Vacancies

**Cable Communications Advisory Com-
mittee (City representative to the
County committee):** The committee as-
sists in the oversight of the franchise
agreement and advises the County on
use of the cable system and allocation of
grants for public service. A knowledge
of the County, communications technol-
ogy and law, accounting, and business
management is desired. You must file
confidential financial disclosure state-
ments annually.

**Human Rights Commission (four vacan-
cies):** This 11-member commission pro-
vides community mediation to resolve
disputes and sponsors mediation train-
ing workshops on fair housing, affirma-
tive action, cultural diversity, and
human rights awareness. Members
serve overlapping four-year terms.

**Human Services Advisory Commission
(one vacancy):** A nine-member body,
this commission provides advice and
guidance on human services needs in the
city, assists in deciding appropriate City
roles and priorities concerning human
services, and participates in oversight
and evaluation to ensure accountability
and cost-effectiveness of City and out-
side providers of human services. Appli-
cants must be a current or former
recipient of human services.

**Landlord/Tenant Affairs Commission
(tenant at-large representative sought):**
A seven-member body, this commission
is comprised of two landlords, two ten-
ants, and three people from the citizenry
at large. It provides a forum for adjudi-
cating differences or disputes between
landlords and tenants.

Retirement Board (one vacancy): This
seven-member board is comprised of two
people with previous business experi-
ence, a member of the Mayor and Coun-
cil, the City Manager or a designee, and
three City employees below the assistant
department head level. It generally di-
rects the affairs of the City's retirement
system, processes retirement and disabil-
ity applications, reviews investment
policy, etc. Terms are for two years.

**Rockville Scholarship Foundation (one
vacancy):** This foundation raises funds
for annual scholarships for Rockville
residents or children of members of the
Chamber of Commerce. Members also
solicit applications for the scholarships,
evaluate those applications, and help
select the recipients.

**Rockville Sister City Corp. (one
vacancy):** The Mayor and Council ap-
point three citizens to the 15-member
board of this group, which helps create
programs to strengthen existing ties
with Pinneberg, Germany; encourages
the exchange of ideas between the cit-
ies; and recommends to the Mayor and
Council steps that can be taken to fur-
ther facilitate the friendship.

If you wish to serve on a citizen's board or
commission, call the City Clerk's Office at 301-
309-3310 for an Expression of Interest Form.

Boards & Commissions Calendar

All meetings are at City Hall, unless
otherwise noted. Please call the City
Clerk's Office at 301-309-3310 to verify
the schedule of meetings.

April 8, 9:30 a.m.

Board of Appeals

April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Science, Technology, and Environment
Commission

April 12, 7 p.m.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

April 12, 7:30 p.m.

Cultural Arts Commission

April 12, 7:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

April 18, 1:30 p.m.

Rockville Seniors Inc., Senior Center

April 18, 7 p.m.

Historic District Commission

April 19, 6:30 p.m.

Housing Authority, 14 Moore Dr.

April 20, 5 p.m.

Board of Supervisors of Elections

April 24, 4 p.m.

Sign Review Board

April 25, 5:30 p.m.

Landlord/Tenant Affairs Commission

April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Traffic and Transportation Commission

April 26, 7:30 p.m.

Human Rights Commission

April 26, 7:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

April 27, 10 a.m.

Senior Commission, Senior Center

April 27, 7 p.m.

Recreation and Park Advisory Board,
Mark Twain Athletic Park

April Budget Dates

APRIL 24 Proposed budget
presentation to the Mayor
and Council

APRIL 25 Proposed budget available
to citizens, organizations,
libraries, and City staff